



Stephens City Newsletter

VOLUME 29, ISSUE 5

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2010

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Stephens City Newsletter is published by the Town Government of Stephens City for its citizens, to inform, to apprise, and to clarify the issues and undertakings before the Town Government. Citizen feedback is encouraged. Contact the Town Office at 1033 Locust Street weekdays between the hours of 8:30a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or by mail: P.O. Box 250, Stephens City, VA 22655

Phone: 869-3087 **Fax:** 869-6166 **Police:** 868-1012 **Website:** www.stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov

From the Mayor's Office...

Hello Citizens,

A big thank you is in order to all of the Town's staff for their support in helping me have a smooth transition in the office of the mayor. The Town is extremely fortunate to have employees with such dedication and expertise in their fields. Also, thank you to all those who have called, sent notes, e-mails, or visited since I took office. Your outreaches have been appreciated. I want everyone to feel that they are always welcome to visit and to voice his or her opinions or concerns.

My reservations have been completed to attend the Mayor's Institute and Virginia Municipal League (VML) Conference to be held in Hampton, VA the first week of October. This is an excellent opportunity to hear outstanding guest speakers on topics for our communities, to share ideas and discuss issues that all municipalities are facing today. Being new to the office, I look forward to



meeting those who hold positions in government all over our state and I hope to build a network of support people to call upon when facing challenging issues.

"You have a beautiful town!" This comment is made by just about anyone who visits us for the first time. But it takes constant effort to keep it that way. Having trash visible along our streets is certainly distracting. Just a reminder, that citizens should not put out trash containers earlier than Tuesday evening for collection on Wednesday and all emptied containers should be taken in by Wednesday evening.

Along the same line, we may all know how long, hot and dry this summer has been. As a result, many yards have been neglected and look rather shaggy right now. Hopefully, we will be getting a break in the weather before long. This should give everyone an opportunity to spruce things up a bit. Consider getting rid of those weeds that have taken over, trimming back those shrubs and trees, or just mowing. What a difference a little action can make in the overall appearance.

Thank you for letting me serve you.

Mayor Joy Shull

YARD SALE PERMITS

This is a reminder that you are required to obtain a Yard Sale permit prior to holding a Yard Sale within the Town.

A permit application is free and each resident is allowed up to two (2) yard sales in a calendar year and each sale cannot last longer than three (3) consecutive days.

If you have any questions, please contact the Town Office.



TOWN OFFICE

CLOSED

on Monday,
September 6, 2010

In honor of
Labor Day
Will re-open on

Tuesday,
September 7, 2010
at 8:30am

From the Town Manager's Desk...

Can the Pizza Man Find You?

It is time to remind homeowners and business owners to post their street address in a visible location on their property as required by both the Town and Frederick County.

Some properties within the Town are not properly identified by the street addresses by not having the numbers posted..

Addresses within Stephens City are assigned by the Town but are consistent with regulations that are established in the Frederick County Street naming and grid system. This system has been established to meet emergency services guidelines for address identification, for postal and delivery services and all other location reasons.

All commercial and residential structures must have the correct street address numbers posted either on the structure or in a clearly visible location. The address numbers are to be no less than four (4) inches in height, clearly visible and made of a durable material. If a structure is more than fifty (50) feet from the street or where an entrance is not visible, the address number is to be placed along the sidewalk, driveway or other suitable location.

Postal regulations also require that the proper address be shown on the mailbox but this does not substitute for the address being displayed on the structure.

Violations of the Town's ordinance for proper address identification constitutes a class four misdemeanor if charged with each day being a separate violation.

Michael Kehoe
Town Manager

The Planner's Corner...

North Main Street Enhancement Project Update...



The plans are not complete and we will not be seeing bulldozers and other equipment on North Main Street this year. However, this does not mean that there has not been progress. Within weeks you will see engineers out on North Main Street taking "core" samples in order to determine the current thickness of Route 11. These core samples are very important as they will help to determine the direction the engineering of the project will take and to how much the current Route 11/ Main Street will need to be rebuilt.

In August, the Town Council approved the concept of the interior design which will feature a divided median with landscaping. However the landscaping will not only spruce up the corridor, but it will also serve as a stormwater drainage system. The project will also feature sidewalks on the eastern side of Main Street and a 8' to 10' shared use path on the western side of Main Street.

It's understandable that the interior concept may seem like it will cost the Town more to construct, but truth is that it will not. In a typical system and conventional stormwater drainage, we would need to construct drainage systems on each side of Route 11 and would also require the complete reconstruction of Route 11 in order to get the stormwater to drain into the storm drains. Under the approved concept we can essentially reconstruct just portions of Route 11 and only have to construct one stormwater collection system.

The goal at this time is to begin the construction in the Spring of 2011, once the design is approved by the Virginia Department of Transportation. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Brian Henshaw
Town Planner/ Assistant Town Manager

Water and Sewer Billing

Water and sewer bills for the bi-monthly billing end **Tuesday, August 31, 2010** and are due upon receipt.

After **October 5, 2010** a **10% penalty** will be added. On **Tuesday, October 12, 2010** service will be discontinued for delinquency. A reconnect fee of **\$25** plus the full

amount of the bill must be paid before service can be restored.

Just a reminder that for your convenience a night drop is available at the Town Office for dropping off check or money order payments and payments can now be made online at the Town's website. Water/Sewer bills can be paid using a Visa or MasterCard. If you pay a

bill online after the due date, you will still be responsible for the 10% penalty and if the bill is paid after the shut off date, the \$25 reconnect fee will need to be paid as well, prior to reconnection.

Reminder:

DO NOT PUT CASH IN THE DROP BOX!

Watch What You Flush II

It has been a year since the last article on this subject was addressed in the newsletter. Still the problem continues.

A year ago it was explained that a major problem was occurring at the wastewater pump station due to person(s) disposing of synthetic paper towels down the drain. These towels cause the turbine pumps to become clogged as the towels will not disintegrate. The towels are either blue or white in color with perforations.

Furthermore there is absolutely no reason for any paper products outside toilet paper to be flushed into the Town's sewer system. Swifter towels, paper towels, paper cups, etc should go into a waste basket!

We are asking for help from the citizens to stop flushing paper materials and in particular the synthetic cleaning or shop "rags" down the drain. If you know of any person(s) doing this, we ask that you notify the Town Office as soon as possible under a condition of anonymity.

TOWN MANAGER,

Michael Kehoe

From the Stephens City Police Department

Trick or Treating will be on **Halloween Night, Sunday, October 31st**. The children may go door to door from **5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. within the Town Limits**. If you do not wish to participate in the trick or treating, please leave your outside lights off.

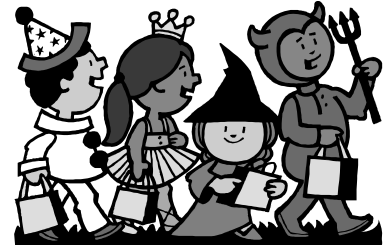
There will be police patrol and please impress upon your children, if there is **no light on do not go to the door**.

Be sure the children have on light colored clothing and carry a flashlight or something

bright that can be seen from vehicles.

Let's make this year another safe and problem free Halloween!

Chief, Charles Bockey



SHERANDO WARRIOR Club

September 20 - September 25

"Sherando Spirit Week"

Thursday, September 23rd

Homecoming Parade on Main Street at 6:30pm,

Stephens City

Inflatable Carnival and Bonfire at the

Newtown Commons

Friday, September 24th

Homecoming Game, 7pm at Sherando

Town Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

Sept	2	Dr. Peter B. Stickley Foundation 7:30pm
Sept	6	Town Office Closed - Honoring the Labor Day
Sept	7	Town Council at 7:30pm
Sept	13	Personnel Committee meeting at 5:00pm
Sept	16	Water/ Sewer meeting at 5:30 pm Public Works meeting at 6:00 pm
Sept	21	Historic Preservation Committee at 5:00pm
Sept	22	Finance Committee at 5:00pm
Sept.	23	Sherando Homecoming Parade and Festivities- 6:30pm
Sept	27	Parks and Recreation Committee at 7:30pm
Sept	28	Planning Commission at 7:30pm

We're on the web!
www.stephenscity.vi.virginia.gov

OCTOBER

Oct.	5	Town Council Meeting at 7:30pm. Water/Sewer Bills Due without penalty Penalties added to Water/Sewer Bills
Oct.	7	Dr. Peter B. Stickley Foundation -7:30pm
Oct.	11	Personnel Committee at 5:00pm
Oct.	12	Water Shut Off Date
Oct.	19	Historic Preservation Committee at 5:00pm
Oct.	21	Water/ Sewer Meeting at 5:30pm Public Works Meeting at 6:00pm Newtown Heritage Festival Mtg. at 7:00pm
Oct.	25	Parks & Recreation Commission at 7:30pm
Oct.	26	Planning Commission at 7:30pm
Oct.	27	Finance Committee at 5:00pm
Oct.	31	



** All meetings subject to change without notice w/ the exception of the Town Council meeting.*

The Business Spotlight!

The Stephens City Business Association is continuing to meet on a regular basis in order to better serve the residents of the Stephens City area. The Business Association has been operating for over 2 years now and is beginning to prepare for the 3rd Annual "Christmas on the Commons". We will have more details on the event in the next newsletter. The Business Association could still use volunteers to help pull this year's event off again.

The Stephens City Business Association is for any and all businesses within the Stephens City area. This includes any home based businesses or small businesses.

The goal of the Business Association is to work together through networking, community outreach and encouraging our local residents to start or continue to shop locally. The Business Association does not require any membership

dues and businesses typically get out of the association what they put into it, through their time and donations.

If you are interested in the activities of the Business Association please contact the chairpersons, Michella Orndorff (Stephens City Insurance Agency) at 540-868-9696 or Dusty Harmon (Sherwin Williams) at 540-868-9255. You may also contact the Town Office at 540-869-3087.

